

Superintendent's Corner

We have 127 days to:

Develop competent readers, writers, and mathematicians

Cultivate scientists, explorers, innovators and communicators of learning

Foster compassion and empathy for others.



On Saturday, a group of Mesa Union teachers and I attended an Oak Park Inquiry Institute Workshop focused on developing inquiry-based learning units. The workshop was developed by Vanessa Heller and Sharon Lavene, both middle school teachers at Oak Park Unified School District. Participants studied four models of inquiry (i.e., Critical Thinking Institute Model of Inquiry, Harvey and Daniel's Inquiry Model, Buck Institute Gold Standard Project-Based Learning Model, and Mackenzie's Model) and had the opportunity to interact and construct the five stages of inquiry. (Immerse, Investigate, Coalesce, Go Public, and Take Action). It was a fun day of learning and collaboration.

Kindergarteners enjoyed a number of Halloween activities and treats on Monday. Teachers and students were all decked out in their costumes as they participated in the traditional Halloween Parade around the school.



Eighth grade students explored [California State University Channel Islands](#) this week. Mesa Union School District partners with the University's Education Department on a number of projects. Wednesday's field trip exposed students to the opportunity of attending one of many outstanding universities in Ventura County.

On Thursday afternoon, Dr. Bluestein, Mesa Union's four administrative credential candidates and I joined aspiring administrators at Balboa Middle School for Ventura County's Phi

Delta Kappa International Superintendent's Forum featuring several Ventura County Superintendents.



On Thursday evening, Mesa Union School District partnered with Empire Therapeutic and Creative Services to provide a parent workshop focused on “Student Support for Success”. Kimberly Prendergast, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Leticia Cousino, parent liaison, and I had the opportunity to present and respond to parents’ questions about services available at Mesa Union School and within Ventura County. I have attached the presentation for your information.



Mesa Union School will be hosting a Gold Coast CUE workshop with presenter Christine Pinto on Saturday, December 10, 2016. Ms. Pinto’s [Gafe4littles Because They Can!](#) is a favorite among primary teachers. Primary teachers throughout Ventura County will be joining Mesa teachers as they learn how to maximize technology as a learning tool in the classroom for the County's youngest students. This will be a feather in Mesa’s hat!